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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Port Conditions/Disposition of Soviet Naval Vessels

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1. Gdynia

treatment similar to that in all Satellite ports. In other words, close supervision over all movements.

observed four large Soviet merchant ships taking on cargoes of meat and coal, and was told that Soviet ships always arrive at Gdynia empty and are systematically bleeding Poland of its produce and resources. the older Polish people want war between the USSR and the west to start now, because they believe that such a conflict would result in an improvement of Poland's present unhappy position. Consumer goods are scarce and extremely costly. For example, shoes when obtainable, cost the equivalent of the average worker's monthly salary.

2. Gdansk

observed two submarines which were apparently based at Gdansk. Although they were not of the snorkel type. These submarines departed Gdansk for periods of approximately three days, and they were Polish manned and engaged in some sort of maneuvers. When in port the two submarines were berthed at (A) and (B)

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on reference chart. At point (C) on the chart there was a naval facility at which there were gun emplacements for [] small caliber anti-aircraft guns.

3. Stettin

Visiting this port []

[] noted no discrepancies with regard to navigational aid or hydrographic information between the chart and existing conditions. [] a number of submarines lying outside the entrance to Stettin from Swinemunde Reede and as many as 50 or 60 small naval craft lying inside the entrances for a distance of several miles. These craft appeared to be old and could be classified as subchasers, patrol craft, mincraft torpedo boats and miscellaneous small craft. When entering port these craft were on the port side of the ship, and [] on previous visits that they were never on the starboard side. While in Stettin [] more Soviet soldiers than in any other Satellite port, and assumed a large military post must be situated nearby. In addition, all influential positions in the city, both military and civilian, seemed to be held by Soviets. Soviet control over the population appeared to be strong, and probably for this reason local people were largely unfriendly toward visiting seamen.

4. []

[] All Soviet vessels of all types located in the Baltic Sea are based at four ports: Ventspils, Libau, Memel and Konigsberg (Kaliningrad). No merchant vessels are allowed within the limits of these ports, which [] have been marked in pencil and labeled "Danger Areas". Also, there are many Soviet submarines based at Tallin, Estonia.

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